

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ORM-01 SR-02 IO-10 AID-05 DPW-01

EB-07 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /093 W

----- 044574

R 311217Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2144

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5318

E.O. 11652: ADS, 3/31/77

TAGS: TH, VS, AMER, PINT

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: A. STATE 71355; B. BANGKOK 5229 (EXDIS, NOTAL);

C. STATE 71689 (NOTAL); D. PARIS 8015; E. MANILA 3868;

F. STATE 71686

1. AN EMBASSY OFFICER SPOKE WITH GVN EMBASSY COUNSELOR NGUYEN

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QUANG MONG MARCH 31. (HE HAD BEEN INACCESSIBLE OVER THE WEEKEND.)

MONG SAID THAT THE ONLY INSTRUCTIONS THE GVN EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED ARE TO REQUEST GENERAL HUMANITARIAN AID (FOOD, CLOTHING, MEDICINES ONLY), AND TO ASK THAT THE RTG REFRAIN FROM RECOGNIZING THE PRG. AMBASSADOR TAM WILL BE SEEKING OUT MFA UNDER SECRETARY PHAEN WANNAMETHI, OR POSSIBLY FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN, "IN A FEW DAYS" TO MAKE THESE APPROACHES.

2. MONG SUGGESTED WE PROCEED WITH OUR INSTRUCTIONS (REF A) INASMUCH AS WE WOULD NOT BE PURSUING THE SAME REQUEST AS THE GVN. WE DEMURRED SAYING THAT IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO ASK EMBASSY SAIGON TO DISCUSS MATTERS WITH THE GVN FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH AN EYE TOWARD HAVING THE LATTER ISSUE APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GVN EMBASSY IN BANGKOK. AT THIS POINT, MONG TOOK A DEFEATIST ATTITUDE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE THAI PROBABLY WOULD NOT WANT TO HELP ANYWAY BECAUSE THE NEW RTG IS MORE INTERESTED IN BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE DRV, AND DOES HAVE HAVE MANY SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT ANYWAY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT THE GVN EMBASSY IN BANGKOK MAKE THE INITIAL EFFORT TO SEEK REFUGEE TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FROM THE RTG. WE THEREFORE CONCUR IN PARIS (REF D) AND MANILA (REF E) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT EMBASSY SAIGON TRY TO INDUCE THE GVN TO ISSUE STRONG ENOUGH INSTRUCTIONS TO BUILD A FIRE UNDER ITS MISSIONS ABROAD TO PLEAD THEIR OWN CASE (REF F). WE WOULD BE FULLY PREPARED TO COME IN RIGHT BEHIND THE GVN. DOING SO WOULD ENHANCE THE GVN STANCE, AND POSSIBLY AVOID AN RTG REQUEST THAT WE BANKROLL WHATEVER AID THE THAI MIGHT AGREE TO PROVIDE.
MASTERS

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